



## **CONNECT GROUP GUIDE**

### **Starting Point: Week 3**

**Read: 1 John 2:3-11.**

The whole purpose of 1 John is so that “we may know that we have eternal life in Christ Jesus. Throughout the book, John says the way we can know is by 3 ways:

- True Teaching (knowing who God is, who we are, and who Jesus is)
- True Living (obedience to God’s commands as a response to His love)
- True Loving (loving others as evidence of God's love within us)

#### **True Teaching**

1 John 2:3-6

"We know that we have come to know him if we keep his commands..."

#### **Questions:**

1. Why do you think John emphasizes obedience as evidence of knowing Jesus?
2. Discuss how understanding who God is affects the way you live out your faith.
3. Is there a specific area in your life where you know what God’s Word says but struggle to live in alignment with it? What is one practical step you can take this week to live out God’s truth more fully in that area?
4. How does your understanding of who God is (He is light, pure, and holy) affect the way you live your life and make decisions? Is there a way God is challenging you to live differently based on His holiness?

#### **True Living**

1 John 2:7-8, John 14:23-24

"Whoever claims to live in him must live as Jesus did."

#### **Questions:**

1. What does it mean to “live as Jesus did”? What are some practical ways we can embody this in our daily lives?
2. Is there a specific command of Jesus that you’ve been struggling to follow? How can you begin to make small changes to live out this command more fully?
3. Think about the areas in your life where transformation is still needed. What does it look like for you to “live as Jesus did” in those areas (relationships, work, how you spend your time, etc.)?
4. How can you cultivate a deeper desire to obey God’s commands, not because you “have to” but because you “want to,” as a response to His love for you?

#### **True Loving**

Bible Reference: 1 John 2:9-11, Matthew 22:37-40, John 13:34-35

"Anyone who claims to be in the light but hates a brother or sister is still in the darkness."

#### **Questions:**

1. Jesus commands us to love others as He has loved us. What does that look like practically, especially toward people who may be difficult to love?
2. How does understanding the depth of God’s love for us empower us to love others, even when they hurt us or don’t deserve it?
3. Is there someone in your life (maybe in your family, church, or workplace) who you are struggling to love? How can you choose to love them in a way that reflects God’s love for you?
4. How can you create opportunities this week to show love to others, even in small ways? What are some practical, tangible actions you can take to reflect God’s love in your relationships?





## **Reflection**

### **Questions:**

1. How do these three "measuring sticks" (True Teaching, True Living, and True Loving) help you evaluate your own walk with God?
2. Which of the three "measuring sticks" (True Teaching, True Living, True Loving) do you feel God is calling you to focus on this week? What specific action steps can you take to grow in that area?

### **Response**

Spend some time in prayer as a group, asking God for greater love for others and greater obedience to His commands. Pray for the courage to live out the light of Christ in the world around you.

